



THE AQUINAS INQUIRER

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VOLLEYBALL GAME: EIGHTH GRADE VS. TEACHERS

As many of the students know, the St. Thomas Aquinas 8th Grade (Brady Crunch) faced the Faculty (Brady Brunch) in the second annual students vs. faculty volleyball game. The game was during Catholic Schools Week on Tuesday Feb. 2nd.

The game was supposedly going to be very close and hard fought. The advantage that the teachers had is that they are “veterans” and have a couple of members who have played

volleyball when they were younger. The obvious advantage that the 8th graders possess is their youth and determination to win. The teachers were trying to make up for last year’s defeat in the volleyball game. The eighth graders were trying to follow in the footsteps of last year and defeat the teachers of the school.

Last year the crowd was split evenly between the faculty and the students. This year there

was a slight edge for the students. Despite the teachers’ “best” efforts, the winner was, once again, the 8th grade students! A special thank you goes out to our fabulous coaches – Mr. Dugan and Mr. Hooper. A fun time was had by all. By Liam Mason



PINEWOOD DERBY

This year is the 100th year since the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. One of the great traditions of the Scouts is the Pinewood Derby. This is when the Scouts make a car with a block of wood. They name it, paint it, and use a special saw to

build it. Then, they bring it to the St. Thomas gym to weigh and race the cars. There is food, fans and lots of cool cars! The race took place on January 31st and the winners were Ben Kelly, Louis Guzzi & Connor Bennett. Congrats to all the boys’ for their hard work. By Frankie Gallagi

SURVEY: EIGHTH GRADE VS. TEACHERS

Students were surveyed on Monday and asked who will win the Volleyball game. Here are the results:
Eighth Grade: 86%
Teachers: 14%

By Faith Pesci

SAINT OF THE MONTH: ST. ANNE

Saint Anne is the mother of Mary and the grandmother of Jesus. Her feast day is on July 26. Her birthday and death are both unknown. Her husband is named Joachim. She was chosen by God to be the mother of Mary. She is the

patroness of cabinet makers and the Canadian Province of Quebec. Saint Anne de Beaupre is one of the most visited shrines of the new world shrines. By Cameron Britt and Adara Holecz

WORD OF THE MONTH

Netiquette – (n)
etiquette used when communicating over electronic means

By Thomas Harris

RESTAURANT REVIEW: ISABELLE ET VINCENT

Isabelle et Vincent is the local French bakery just down the road from St. Thomas. It is a magnificent bakery with great food and great service. The aroma of French chocolate is in the air. There is also a wonderful aroma of fresh, warm French bread. The

owners are Isabelle and her husband Vincent, an eighth generation French pastry chef. The employees, Isabel, Vincent and their children are very polite and nice. Every food, pastry, and sweet treat is to die for and this writer particularly loves their chocolate and bread.

It is highly recommended to go to Isabelle et Vincent. After your first bite you will immediately fall in love with their food. So, Bon Appetit! By Damian Chessare



GOOD BOOKS TO READ

A great series that a lot of people like is the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series by Rick Riordan. In the first book, *The Lightning Thief*, Percy finds out that all the real freaky things that happen to him like monsters attacking are because he is the son of Poseidon, the god of the Sea. He goes on an adventure at Camp Half-

Blood, a place where half-human-half-gods stay for the summer. Soon, he is chosen for a Quest with Annabeth Chase and Grover Underwood. A movie is being made of the first book, which will be released on President's Day in February. The rest, you have to find out yourself! By Julia Rivenburg

TEACHER INTERVIEW: MRS. DRIGGS

Mrs. Driggs has been teaching at St. Thomas for twenty-three years? Amazing! When she first started twenty- three years ago, there wasn't a library like the one in St. Thomas now and the library was originally located in the office. The school didn't have a cafeteria, a gym, or a playground until one made of tires was installed outside.

Mrs. Driggs went to a Catholic school in Chicago, Illinois, where all her teachers were strict nuns.

The school was much bigger and had fifty students in each class and three classes per grade.

When Mrs. Driggs was a child, another Catholic school in Chicago called Our Lady of Angels had caught on fire. Most schools back then didn't have any sprinklers or any fire alarms and over one hundred kids died in the fire. There is no proof of how the fire started, but there are many ideas as to what the cause may have been.

Some of Mrs. Driggs' favorite memories of St. Thomas are

when her children went to the school here and when they put on the Wizard of Oz play fifteen years ago. She also likes when her former students come and visit her. She also misses her fellow teachers Mrs. Hogan and Mrs. Gogol, our former second grade teacher and librarian.

Why does she teach? She teaches because she loves children, and she thinks giving children knowledge is the greatest gift. By Damian Chessare

POEM TO MS. BRADY FIFTH GRADE JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS

You are my light
You are my inspiration
You make me jump
You make me sing
You make me spin
You make me grin
You make me shout
You never pout
You make me laugh
You make me smile
Your smiles go for miles
No sorrows
No woes
No fears nor tears
No sadness nor madness
You are my hero
Your compassion brings
gladness
Your words say joy
Your eyes are kind
Your laughter gains power
Your happiness makes the sun
shine
Your energy makes the stars
alight
Your love brings peace to
others

You are Ms. Brady

-Alexa Cimino

The 5th grade Junior Girl Scouts just experimented with science by making raisins dance and painting invisible pictures. Julia Rivenburg, a 5th grade Girl Scout said, "You might think this is impossible, but it's not." The girl scouts made the raisins dance by putting vinegar, baking soda and water in a cup and watching

them float and dance. The invisible pictures came to life by putting rubbing alcohol and some kind of medication over the pictures, but the picture only stayed for about 10-40 seconds. They had fun and learned a lot. By Alexa Cimino, Julia Rivenburg, Adara Holecz, and Mary McGee.



FOURTH GRADE BOYS JJV BASKETBALL

4th Grade Boys JJV Team
Record: 5-3 The coaches are Greg Clarkin and Michael Day. Luckily, they won 3 games in a row in January. They participated in the St. Theresa School tournament a series of Friday evening games. They won a nail-biter on January 22nd against St. Lawrence 19-16 - St.

Lawrence was 8 & 1 before this game. Matthew Clarkin hit 2 free throws with 17 seconds left in the game & the rest is history!
By Liam Day



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

This year, for Catholic Schools Week, Ms. Brady had a week, full of fun events, planned for the students. Over the weekend, there were speakers at Mass at our parish, as well as an Open House on January 31, 2010 from 10:00-noon. Throughout the week, we collected change for the children of Haiti! On Monday, February 1, we had an

all-school prayer service at 8:30 a.m., and at 11:30, students from grades K-3 went bowling. Tuesday, February 2, all students could wear red or blue clothes in support of their favorite volleyball team: Teachers or the 8th grade. On Wednesday, February 3, we had our "Souper" Bowl

collection. Students could bring in a can of soup and wear their favorite team jersey! Thursday February 4, grades 4-8 went bowling with a casual dress day. As our week came to an end on Friday, February 5, we celebrated Mass with our grandparents or special people visiting us. By Katie Sarøent

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council has many fun plans for this year. On Sunday, the Student Council presented a Mass at 9:00 in the St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Many of the student representatives participated in this Mass. Another great plan that the Student Council has organized is Souper Bowl day.

On this day you were allowed to support your favorite team and wear a jersey! All you had to do was bring in a can of soup. All the cans of soup were be delivered to Sr. Theresa's day care and will be distributed to all the children who go to the nursery as well as their parents. Some funny changes

that will probably not happen are escalators and slides instead of stairs as well as bow ties being included in the uniform. By Michaela O'Donnell and Frankie Gallagi

NEWSPAPER STAFF

Kate McCormick, Frankie Gallagi, Claire Donelan, Lizzie Duggan, Lily Prince, Mary Berardino, Spencer Peiffer, Tucker Ludwig, Caroline Monahan, Cameron Britt, Adara Holecz, Mary McGee, Julia Rivenburg, Liam Day, Thomas Harris, Ryan Cimmino, Damian Chessare, Tessa Gallagi,

Michaela O'Donnell, Alexa Cimmino, Faith Pesci, Katie Sargent, Emmet Flynn, Grace Donelan, Sophie Prince, Emily Cimmino, Turner Donelan, Peter Campbell, Kara Duggan, Brittany Sendzik, Liam Mason, Jane Hooper, Ann Marie Guzzi
Artists – Spencer Peiffer, Frankie Gallagi & Cooper Sandin